

**SOUTH SUDAN**

# **PORTRAITS FROM HELL**





MORE THAN 2 MILLION DISPLACED, UNKNOWN THOUSANDS OF DEAD, AND COUNTLESS RAPED AND MAIMED: THE SOUTH SUDAN CIVIL WAR PROVOKED THE BIGGEST HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN THE WORLD.

FIGHTINGS CONTINUE IN THE UNITY, JONGLEI AND UPPER NILE STATES, AND OTHER MILLIONS PEOPLE ARE FORCED TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES. THE SOLDIERS OF UNMISS MISSION HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO PREVENT MANY ATTACKS ON CIVILIAN AROUND THEIR BASES. THE SITUATION, BECAUSE OF FAMINE STARTING, BECOME WORST DAY AFTER DAY. BUT REPORTING FROM SOUTH SUDAN CRISIS IS NOT SO SIMPLE. MANY SOUTH SUDANESE JOURNALISTS ARE BEING KIDNAPPED, TORTURED, BURNED. THE WORK OF FOREIGN JOURNALISTS IS NOT EASIER.

THE WITNESSES OF BRUTALITY ARE AFRAID. IN SOUTH SUDAN, DECADES OF CIVIL WAR HAVE RESULTED IN WIDESPREAD TRAUMA, AND THE CHRONICALLY UNDERDEVELOPED NATION IS STRUGGLING TO PROVIDE FACILITIES, STAFF AND TREATMENT FOR THOSE IN NEED OF MENTAL HEALTHCARE. THE SOUTH SUDAN MEDICAL JOURNAL REPORTS THAT DEPRESSION, POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD), ANXIETY AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE ARE MAJOR MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AFFECTING THE COUNTRY. THE ONLY RECENT PREVALENCE DATA DERIVE FROM A 2007 SURVEY OF 1,242 ADULTS IN JUBA, WHICH FOUND THAT 36 PERCENT OF RESPONDENTS MET SYMPTOM CRITERIA FOR PTSD AND HALF MET SYMPTOM CRITERIA FOR DEPRESSION.











































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